

AMENDMENTS to the SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 0025 (as numbered in pregrant publication) to read as follows:

[0025] Turning to FIG. 3, the invention is shown in relationship to a portion of the IOS of the related application. The Sales Preparation System ("SPS") (~~60~~) comprising an IBM Lotus Notes system provides available materials list to the traders via their trader consoles (61), which are networked personal computers also running Lotus Notes applications. The available materials list contains manufacturer identifiers and part numbers.

Please amend paragraph 0026 (as numbered in pregrant publication) to read as follows:

[0026] The SPS (~~60~~) contains a database (60) of available product descriptive information indexed to part numbers, including text descriptions, specifications (606), photographs (605), prices and quantities (607) for all available items.

Please amend paragraph 0033 (as numbered in pregrant publication) to read as follows:

[0033] The trader may then use a trader console (61) to access the most current descriptive information by supplying requests containing part numbers to SPS database (60). Preferably, SPS executes the synchronization function or script to link to the most current descriptive information in the parts catalog (609), SPS, and any other linked databases. Then, this current descriptive information is returned to the requester or trader via the trader console (61).

Please amend paragraph 0034 (as numbered in pregrant publication) to read as follows:

[0034] When the trader has finalized the offer, the current descriptive information is copied to the IOS database (62) to be made available to brokers and bidders, thus capturing the currently available information about the offered products.